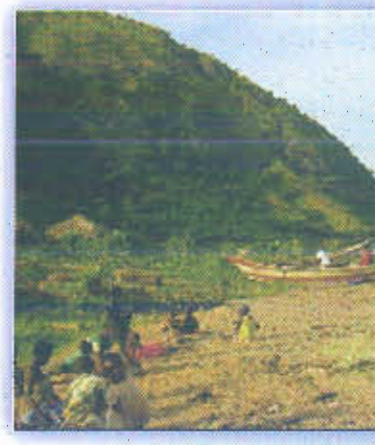
Recommend ns

- Sustainable harvesting of B haplochromines so that en sustain the fishery of Nile p predatory species.
- Clearing of shoreline macr be prohibited.
- Control of fishing effort for harvesting of the fishery re
- Fishing in critical fish habit prohibited

Critical Ha s

Habitat	Role
Lagoons	Breeding from preda
River mouths	Important
Large (vegetated) Bays	Breeding a
Rocky	Refuge fro



Rocky Shorelines

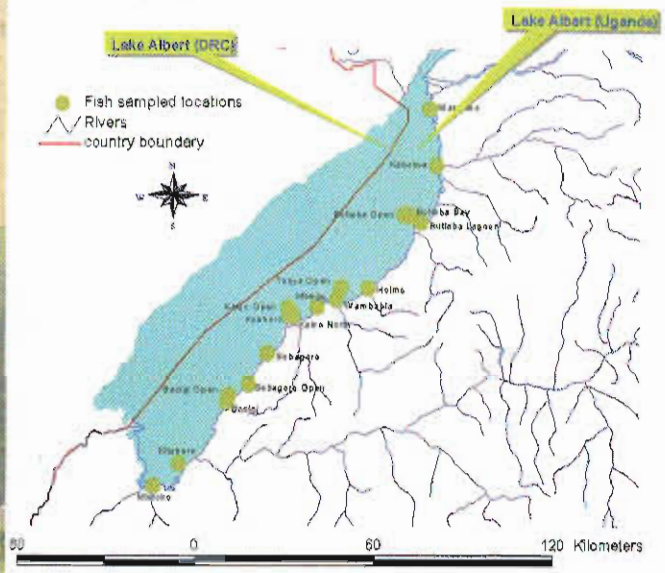
Vegetated Shorelines

Sandy/Open Water Habitats

Lagoons

National Fisheries Resources Research Institute

Sampled stations



Fish Species Diversity, and the biology and ecology of common fish species in Lake Albert

NaFIRRI

2010

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Located on Nile Crescent, Plot 39/45,Jinja

opposite the wagon ferry terminal.

Introduction

- Lake Albert contributes about 10% to the national fish production
- It supports a multi-species fishery based on endemic species
- To local fishermen, Lake Albert is a lifeline providing food and income

Fishes of Lake Albert

Lates niloticus **(Mputa)**

Neobola bredoi **Mukene/Muziri**

Distichodus niloticus **(Wachone)**

Synodontis frontonsis **(Kwoke/Nkolongo)**

The haplochromines of Lake Albert

Troracochromis loati

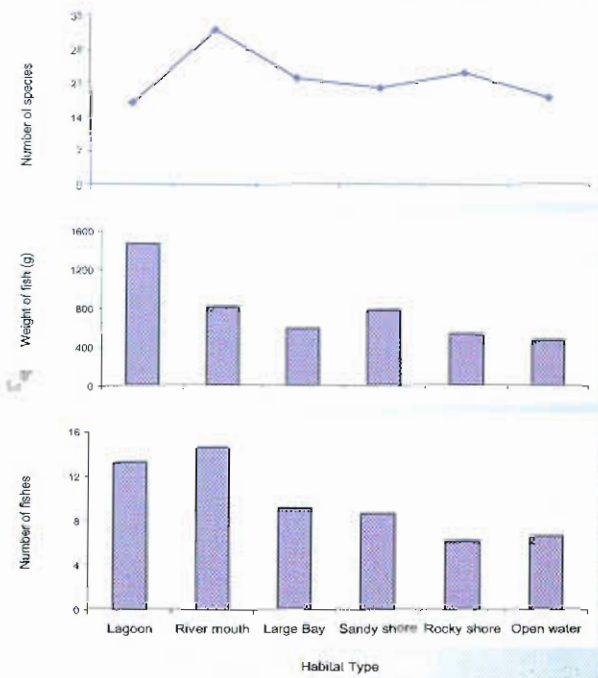
Thoracochromis avum

Haplochromis "zebra"

Neochromis sp

Major observations

- The number of fish types has declined and some species, especially the moon fishes represented by *Citharinus Citharinus* (Mpoi) are threatened with extinction
- A total of 40 fish species belonging to 12 families was recorded
- The highest number of species (34) was recorded from the river mouth and the lowest (18) from open water
- Catches are dominated by *Brucinus nurse* (Ragoge) and *Neobola bredoi* (Muziri) caught by light fishing
- Other species of importance include the *Hydrocynus* (Ngassa), Nile perch, and *Alestes baremose* (Ngara)
- Both species of Lates were dominated by juvenile immature individuals (more than 80% by weight), an indication of increased recruitment to counter intensive fishing pressure on the lake
- Habitats critical to survival of fish species include lagoons, river-mouths, large (vegetated) bays and rocky shores. These habitats serve as fish breeding and nursery grounds
- Fringing macrophytes in the inshore zones of the lake are important habitats for the macro-invertebrates on which fish feed, and also provide protection cover for small and juvenile fishes
- Nkejje and *Brucinus nurse* (Muziri) which are being harvested for bait and animal feeds respectively, are important food items for the commercially important *Hydrocynus forskali*, *Lates spp* and *B. bayad*



Graph of Cotches by Habitat Type

Threats to the fishery and species diversity

- **Over-fishing:** The number of crafts increased from 764 in 1965 to 5700 in 2007
- **Bad fishing gears and methods** i.e. Beach seines (*kokota*), hitting of water (tycoon), extended stay on the lake (*salacio*) and under-sized gillnets

Salacio fishing method